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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/678,800	10/03/2003	Todd P. Guay	oracle01.026	3882

7590  
Gordon E. Nelson  
57 Central St.  
P.O. Box 782  
Rowley, MA 01969

EXAMINER
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AHLUWALIA, NAVNEET K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



### DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to the Amendment filed 01/09/2008.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Claims 1 – 8 and 25 – 32 are pending in this Office Action. After a further search and a thorough examination of the present application, claims 1 – 8 and 25 – 32 remain rejected.
3. Applicant's arguments filed with respect to claims 1 – 8 and 25 – 32 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

*Applicant argues that there is no teaching in Bakalash of an “aggregated entry” with a “a field whose value is a representation of a set, the representation specifying individual members of the set”.*

*In response to Applicant’s argument, the Examiner submits that Bakalash teaches the aggregated entry in detail along with a field whose value is a representation of a set in paragraphs 25 and 29, where it teaches in detail about the aggregation of the dimension time and how it can comprise of a set of values. Furthermore, in paragraphs 68 and 73 – 74, Bakalash teaches the aggregates along with the fact table and also talks about the aggregation table having levels of aggregation from the fact table.*

*Other claims recite the same subject matter and for the same reasons as cited above the rejection is maintained.*

Hence, Applicant's arguments do not distinguish the claimed invention over the prior art of record. In light of the foregoing arguments, the 102 rejections are sustained.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1 – 8 and 25 – 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bakalash et al. ('Bakalash' herein after) (US 2002/0029207 A1).

With respect to claim 1,

Bakalash discloses a method of aggregating a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the method comprising the steps of: making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a field whose value is a representation of a set, the representation specifying individual members of the set and deriving the individual members specified in the representation of the set from values contained in entries belonging to the plurality thereof (paragraphs 55 – 57 and 73 – 74, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 2,

Bakalash discloses the method set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of: deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry (paragraphs 216, 258, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 3,

Bakalash discloses the method set forth in claim 1 wherein: the representation of the set has a size which varies with the number of members in the specified in the representation (paragraphs 41, 71 and 94, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 4,

Bakalash discloses the method set forth in claim 3 wherein: The representation of the set represents the set as a character string wherein each member is represented by a sequence of characters and the sequences of characters are separated by a separator character (Figure 10A-B, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 5,

Bakalash discloses the method set forth in claim 1 wherein: the representation of the set has a size which is constant regardless of the number of members in the set (paragraphs 41, 71 and 94, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 6,

Bakalash discloses the method set forth in claim 5 wherein: the representation of the set represents the set as a string of elements, there being an element corresponding to each potential member of the set, the presence of a particular member in the set being indicated by a first value of the corresponding element and the absence of the particular member being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element (paragraph 59 – 62, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 7,

Bakalash discloses the method set forth in claim 1 wherein: in the step of deriving members of the set, the values from which the members of the set are derived are time values (Figures 17A, 18A-B, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 8,

Bakalash discloses the method set forth in claim 1 wherein: in the step of deriving members of the set, the values from which the members of the set are derived are location values (paragraph 59 – 62 and Figures 17A, 18A-B, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 25,

Bakalash discloses a data storage device, characterized in that: the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs a method of

aggregating a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the method comprising the steps of: making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a field whose value is a representation of a set the representation specifying individual members of the set; and deriving the individual members specified in the representation of the set from values contained in entries belonging to the plurality thereof (paragraphs 55 – 57 and 73 – 74, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 26,

Bakalash discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that: the method further comprises the step of deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry (paragraphs 216, 258, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 27,

Bakalash discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that: the representation of the set has a size which varies with the number of members specified in the representation (paragraphs 41, 71 and 94, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 28,

Bakalash discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 27 further characterized in that: The representation of the set represents the set as a character

string wherein each member is represented by a sequence of characters and the sequences of characters are separated by a separator character (Figure 10A-B, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 29,

Bakalash discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that: the representation of the set has a size which is constant regardless of the number of members in the set (paragraphs 41, 71 and 94, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 30,

Bakalash discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 29 further characterized in that: the representation of the set represents the set as a string of elements, there being an element corresponding to each potential member of the set, the presence of a particular member in the set being indicated by a first value of the corresponding element and the absence of the particular member being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element (paragraph 59 – 62, Bakalash).

With respect to claim 31,

Bakalash discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that: in the step of deriving members of the set, the values from which the members of the set are derived are time values (Figures 17A, 18A-B, Bakalash).



With respect to claim 32,

Bakalash discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that: in the step of deriving members of the set, the values from which the members of the set are derived are location values (paragraph 59 – 62 and Figures 17A, 18A-B, Bakalash).

***Conclusion***

6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Navneet K. Ahluwalia whose telephone number is 571-272-5636.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alam T. Hosain can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Navneet K. Ahluwalia  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2166

Dated: 04/08/2008

/Hosain T Alam/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2166

<div><b><i>Application Number</i></b></div> <div></div>	<b>Application/Control No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination</b>	
	10/678,800	GUAY ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	NAVNEET K. AHLUWALIA	2166	